

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: EXTENSION SERVICE

DATE: JULY 27, 2006

Committee Members Present:

Supervisors F. Thomas
Sheehan
Geraghty

Representing Cooperative Extension:

Andrew Sprague
Daniel Morrell
Linda Webb

Committee Members Absent:

Supervisors Merlino
Girard

Daniel West
Cyndi Davis
William Thomas, Chairman
Joan Sady, Clerk, Board of Supervisors
JoAnn McKinstry, Confidential Secretary,
Commissioner, Administrative & Fiscal Services
Supervisor Barody
Maury Thompson, *The Post-Star*
Katy Goodman, Secretary to the Clerk

Mr. F. Thomas called the meeting to order at 11:08 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Geraghty, seconded by Mr. Sheehan and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, subject to correction by the clerk.

Mr. F. Thomas stated the purpose of the meeting was to review Cooperative Extension's proposed 2007 budget request.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Mr. Sprague. Copies of the agency's proposed 2007 budget were distributed to the Committee members and a copy of same is on file with the minutes. Mr. Sprague introduced Linda Webb, the agency's Office Manager. He stated Mr. Morrell would review the budget.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Mr. Morrell. He stated the budget request was about the same as it had been for the past several years. The 2007 budget request to the County was \$452,150, an increase of \$13,167 over the 2006 appropriation of \$438,983, an increase of 3%. He advised the increase was due to higher energy and gasoline costs. Mr. Morrell said they would be glad to answer any questions the Committee members might have on the budget. Mr. Morrell noted they had thought the increase could be less but in view of the projected energy costs they decided to leave the request as is.

Mr. Sprague advised when they compared their fuel bill from the County for May they realized they would need to increase the 2007 request by 75%. He stated the agency's facility is

heated with electric heat and from all the indications in the media electricity costs are going to increase as well. Thus, he said they increased that account.

Mr. W. Thomas left the meeting at 11:10 a.m.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Ms. Davis, and she pointed out the budget line item for gas was on Page 9 of the budget package. (Budget code 832000 7000 03 Fleet-Gas). The proposed request for 2007 was \$5,700 compared to \$4,200 for the 2006 budget. Mr. Morrell noted the 2007 request was almost double the 2006 figure. Ms. Davis stated their costs for June were about double those for May. Mr. Morrell referred to the line item for electric utilities (Budget code 860000 7000 03 Facilities - Utilities - Electric on Page 11). He noted the 2007 proposed figure of \$11,375 was not too much more than the \$11,200 in the 2006 budget proposal. Ms. Davis said she had realized the actual costs in 2005 were \$9,681.30 so they anticipated the 2007 actual costs should be within range of the estimate.

Mr. Barody asked if there was a balance sheet in the budget that showed the agency's fund balance. Ms. Davis responded the budget covered only their operations. He asked that copies of the balance sheet as of today's date be sent to the supervisors. Ms. Davis acknowledged the request. Ms. Davis advised at the agency's recent board meeting she had provided some ratios and the current ratio was 4 -1. Mr. F. Thomas noted the overall increase in the agency's request to the County was \$13,167 over the 2006 appropriation.

Mr. Barody referred to the total revenues figures on Page 3 of the proposed budget. He asked if it was correct that the 2005 actual total revenues were \$725,221.38. Ms. Davis concurred. She referred to Page 1 of the highlights sheet for the budget and the note that the 2007 proposed budget did not include all their other programs that they were not requesting County funds for. Ms. Davis apprised the revenues would be much higher because they would include program participation fees, proceeds from the fair and private support.

Continuing, Mr. Barody pointed out as shown on Page 3 some of those revenues were included in the 2006 proposed budget, i.e., fair income to get to the \$675,140.60 figure. Ms. Davis agreed. Mr. Barody queried why the 2007 proposed revenues of \$565,649 were \$50,080.78 less than the 2005 actual revenues of \$725,221.38. Ms. Davis replied that could be from a combination of a lot of things such as fluctuations in the participation levels of the programs and less training being provided which would reduce the revenues from those fees. Mr. Barody asked why the revenues were shown in some places and not others. Ms. Davis replied it was because the expenses for some things were paid through program revenues. Mr. Barody commented that made it difficult to compare "apples to apples."

Mr. Morrell said he had been unable to attend some of the Extension Association Board's budget meetings, but Mr. West had done so in his place. He asked if Mr. West had any comments on the budget. Privilege of the floor was extended to Mr. West, and he stated the Association's committee that reviewed the budget went through every line item and they were rather conservative in their proposal. He said he thought the confusion was that the dollars were from different sources, i.e., the State and the County. However, Mr. West said the appropriation from the County was very consistent.

Ms. Davis spoke on the proposed Campership budget which was the last page in the budget package. She apprised the County had generously increased this line item in the 2006 budget from the \$21,375 actual 2005 budget to \$28,400. The 2007 proposed budget request was also \$28,400, she added. As a result of the increase, Ms. Davis reported they were able to send 100 children to camp this year and three were able to go at reduced tuition. Ms. Davis said they appreciated the County increasing that appropriation very much. She confirmed for Mr. F. Thomas that all the applicants who really wanted to go to the camp did so. Mr. Sprague explained the Warren County Campership budget was separate from the agency's budget.

General discussion ensued.

Motion was made by Mr. Geraghty, seconded by Mr. Sheehan and carried unanimously to approve the 2007 Extension Service budget, as presented, and to authorize the committee chairman to sign it and submit it to the Budget Officer.

Motion was made by Mr. Geraghty, seconded by Mr. Sheehan and carried unanimously to approve the 2007 Warren County Campership budget, as presented, and to authorize the committee chairman to sign it and submit it to the Budget Officer.

Mr. Morrell thanked the Committee and the Board of Supervisors for all the support they have given the agency in the past years. They hoped the support would continue in the future, he added. Mr. F. Thomas acknowledged the remarks and he thanked the agency for the valuable programs they provide.

There being no further business, on motion by Mr. Geraghty and seconded by Mr. Sheehan, Mr. F. Thomas adjourned the meeting at 11:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Katy Goodman, Secretary to the Clerk